for RETF news update
Angela McFadden to: Brian Hamilton 12/16/2011 01:07 PM

From: Angela McFadden/R3/USEPA/US
To: Brian Hamilton/R3/USEPA/US@EPA

another piece to include in the update

Angela McFadden

U.S. EPA, Region 3
Water Protection Division
1650 Arch Street (3WP00)
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Tel. (215) 814-2324
cell (215) 287-7823
Fax (215) 814-2301

----- Forwarded by Angela McFadden/R3/USEPA/US on 12/15/2011 01:24 PM -----

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
To: yudichak@pasenate.com, wkeiser@pahousegop.com, dwhite@pasen.gov, washtwp@washingtontownship.com, tkopas@co.westmoreland.pa.us, Angela McFadden/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, mjunker@co.westmoreland.pa.us, localnews@post-gazette.com, mbowers@pasen.gov, jsulliva@pahouse.net, karas@kdka.com, jmarkose@pahouse.net, jscarnati@pasen.gov, petrarca@pahouse.net, tbalya@co.westmoreland.pa.us, news@wtae.com, pat@toomey.senate.gov, nate.nevala@mail.house.gov, nathan.robinson@mail.house.gov, mpappas@pasenate.com, mwhite@pasen.gov, cweber@murrysvillegov.org, costa@pasenate.com, Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy, dwhite@pasen.com, fgibbon@co.westmoreland.pa.us, eerickson@pasen.gov, friendsofeli2010@gmail.com, fontana@pasenate.com, governor@state.pa.us, gjones@pasen.gov, Edward Hanlon/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, jboren@tribweb.com, jason.altmire@mail.house.gov, jim.hill@mnl.house.gov, jfrei@pahousegop.com, assignments@wpxi.com, brewster@pasenate.com, candreassi@acmiller.com, cbova@co.westmoreland.pa.us, fontana@pasenate.com, ferlo@pasenate.com, dpileggi@pasen.gov, jpiccola@pasen.gov, sgreenleaf@pasen.gov, jgordner@pasen.gov, kitchen@pasenate.com, hughes@pasenate.com, eerickson@pasen.gov, jeichelberger@pasen.gov, lfarnese@pasen.gov, yudichak@pasenate.com, mbrubaker@pasen.gov, wozniak@pasenate.com, jcorman@pasen.gov, stack@pasenate.com, mwaugh@pasen.gov, rtomlinson@pasen.gov, lsmucker@pasen.gov, leach@pasenate.com, rkasunic@pasenate.com, evogel@pasen.gov, tsolobay@pasenate.com, williams@pasenate.com, washington@pasenate.com, gyaw@pasen.gov, mwhite@pasen.gov, kward@pasen.gov, tartaglione@pasenate.com, dwhite@pasen.gov, vance@pasen.gov, jpippy@pasen.gov, jrafferty@pasen.gov, alloway@pasen.gov, brewster@pasenate.com, cmcilhinney@pasen.gov, jorie@pasen.gov, jscarnati@pasen.gov, SenatorSchwank@pasenate.com, andy@pasenate.com, costa@pasenate.com, pbrowne@pasen.gov, mfolmer@pasen.gov, boscola@pasenate.com, senatorblake@pasenate.com, dargall@pasen.gov, jearll@pasen.gov
Date: 12/15/2011 01:18 PM
Subject: Fwd: From NYDEC technician: "Hydrofracking sure to contaminate water"

In light of the decision made yesterday by our representatives, we wish to thank those representatives who voted against the bill. For those who voted in favor of the bill, you NEED to read the below article. Until the town of Dimock has drinkable water again, a BAN needs to be imposed on fracking until we find it totally SAFE for our citizens. We do not want to be put in harm's way for the sake of creating profits for the gas and oil industry. Please consider hydroelectric power as an option.....there would be no adverse effects of creating energy using the natural resource of water.

Thank you.

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

-----Original Message-----
From: **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** @aol.com>
To: **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** @aol.com>
Sent: Wed, Dec 14, 2011 4:40 am
Subject: From NYDEC technician: "Hydrofracking sure to contaminate water"

DIM0063856

http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/article/20111213/OPINION02/712139975

Hydrofracking sure to contaminate water

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2011

As an environmental engineering technician with NYSDEC Region 5, I managed scores of groundwater remediation projects in the 1990s. I've reviewed countless hydrogeologic reports and seen thousands of lab results from contaminated wells. I'm familiar with the fate and transport of contaminants in fractured media, and let me be clear:

Hydraulic fracturing as it's practiced today will contaminate our aquifers.

Not might contaminate our aquifers. Hydraulic fracturing will contaminate New York's aquifers. If you were looking for a way to poison the drinking water supply, here in the Northeast you couldn't find a more chillingly effective and thorough method of doing so than with hydraulic fracturing.

My experience investigating and remediating contaminated groundwater taught me some lessons. There's no such thing as a perfect well seal. Occasionally sooner, often later, well seals can and do fail, period.

No confining layer is completely competent; all geologic strata leak to some extent. The fact that a less-transmissive layer lies between the drill zone and a well does not protect the well from contamination.

A drinking water well is never in "solid" rock. If it were, it would be a dry hole in the ground. As water moves through joints, fissures and bedding planes into a well, so do contaminants. In fractured media such as shale, water follows preferential pathways, moving fast and far, miles per week in some cases.

In the absence of oxygen (such as under the ground), organic compounds break down infinitesimally slowly. Chemicals injected into the aquifer will persist for many lifetimes.
When contamination occurs—and it will occur— we will all pay for it, regardless of where we live. Proving responsibility for groundwater contamination is difficult, costly and time-consuming, and while corporate lawyers drag out proceedings for years, everyone's taxes will pay for the subsurface investigations, the whole-house filtration systems, the unending lab analyses.

I'd love to see hundreds more jobs created. But not if it means hundreds of thousands using well water will be at a high risk of contamination. Not if it means every New Yorker will be on the hook for the cost for cleanup and for creating alternate water supplies. If your well goes bad, neither you, nor your children, nor their children will ever be able to get safe, clean water back. That's too high a price.

Drill for gas, absolutely, but develop safe technologies first.

Paul Hetzler
Canton